

private comfort in the society in which I have lived for some years past." "But," he goes on to say, " whilst I have endeavoured to fulfil my duty to Her Majesty's Government in the public course of repression I have pursued, it did not consist with my station to enact measures of general and undistinguishing violence against Her Majesty's subjects and subjects, and to a mode of working out objects of right and justice, which sat all the obligations of moderation and justice at defiance. I have resisted the Commissioner's actual demands, because they were utterly unjust; and because their concession would have involved the abandonment of principles, which can never be conceded to a British officer, with any hope of maintaining the respectability of the British trade in this country. It was the temper of the British representative at that time. Had the Chinese Government recognised legitimate trade and endeavoured honestly to prevent the smuggling of opium the British Government would have offered no opposition." But, then, as now Chinese officials, "who were at first nominally contractors, but whose duty it was to prevent its being smuggled into the country were quite willing to accept payment of dues upon it. The Chinese Government is alone responsible for the growth of the trade. The British Government never in any way countenanced smuggling, and, on the contrary, by their representative endeavoured to suppress it. The Chinese, however, were either unable or unwilling to adopt such measures as would give effect to the British Representative's attempts in this direction, and as the trade grew. The Kwangtung Government, in the meantime, heaped insults, and injuries on our persons, making no discrimination between those who were engaged in the trade and those engaged in legitimate trade. British officials were treated with contumely and scorn, and after a long period of forbearance on the part of the British, hostilities were commenced, not for the purpose of forcing opium in the Chinese, but to compel fair and honourable treatment of British subjects and to bring the British Representative to prominence."

PROVOST MORGAN, who at that time was over "our plenipotentiary, Sir HENRY POTTINGER," tried to get the opium trade legalised, "but this was simply in order to put an end to the state of lawlessness which had prevailed and to bring the trade under control, seeing that the Chinese at that time did not wish to suppress it. Had the Chinese Government adopted effective and reasonable measures to that end they would not have been opposed by the British Government."

CHINA AND GREAT BRITAIN.

We have often wondered how it is that the Peking Government have never so slight an appreciation of the value of an alliance with Great Britain. Most Chinese officials have exhibited little desire to cultivate the friendship of England, and Chinese policy of late years has inclined them far more towards other Western Powers. This, too, in spite of the fact that Sir Thomas Wade, acting under instructions from Lord Salisbury, showed a decidedly conciliatory front. But no; his very forbearance was misconstrued into weakness or timidity, and in 1876 this misconception brought the two countries to the very verge of war. It was not until the difficulty with Russia over the Kulda question was amicably decided to the reputation of the Chinese Government, and the Chinese Government with Mr. de Giers, that the Peking mandarins began fully to recognise that they had an enemy more to be feared than England. The lessons which the forbearance of England in restoring Oushan and merely retaining the barren rocky islet of Oushan as a naval and commercial station have taught them in this respect. The Chinese rulers appear to have been quite lost upon them. One would imagine that they thought the only reason the British and French troops did not seize two or three of the eighteen provinces was a fear of being driven out. Yet the Allies had, during the late war, the Chinese empire practically at their feet, and the British and French troops were actually ordered to take Kwangtung and France Peking, so no one could or would have said them more. That they did not do so was the result of a moderation which the Peking Government might vainly expect from Russia. Yet even now the Chinese officials show an unreasonable distrust upon England, unable to see that apparently, as a motive but a selfish one in connection with their policy, quite incapable of recognising the fact that she neither covets nor would accept a square inch of Chinese territory unless compelled to take it in self-defence or in reparation for payment of an indemnity. In regarding the recent evidence of the British disposition to evacuate the leased territory in the retirement from Afghanistan and the abandonment of the Transval, the refusal to annex New Guinea, and the New Hebrides—although earnestly requested to do so by the united voice of the great Australian Colonies—and the proposed early withdrawal of the British army of occupation from Egypt, the Chinese Government are so frightened enough to see that China's greatness is to be apprehended from Russia, and that the best way to provide against it is to secure an alliance with England. In the *Diary*, lately published, the Marquis of Salisbury refers to the protection of Turkey by England, and sensibly remarks that "England is the only power which Turkey, in its weakness, acts as the safeguard and support of Europe, and it is England's intervention that alone prevents Russia from carrying out her designs upon Turkey." At the Berlin Conference the representatives of the other Powers maintained an attitude of indecision and inaction, but only under the impression that the protection of Turkey was the danger of India were matters which concerned England only. This was in a sense true enough; but it ignored the fact that India's weakness was England's danger, and that danger to England meant danger to the whole of Europe. The Chinese Ambassador then proposed to draw a parallel between the position of Turkey and that of China, and the result was, as exposed to Russian intrigue, as follows:—"Nor is it only Europe which is affected; China is exposed to equal danger. If China could patch up the rift before the rain comes on, and secure the friendship of England, she would, with England on her side, have nothing to fear from the aggressive designs of Russia. China and Russia and India are close to India, and the success of Russia's attempts to coerce China in that quarter would be fraught with trouble to England. It may, therefore, be profitable to some future date to gain England's friendship, effecting an amicable arrangement. If England puts forth all her might to protect Turkey, it is impossible that she would make some slight effort to aid China? To this some may object, and say that Russia and England are alike in their rapacious tendencies, and that there is no likelihood of gaining England to our side. I would answer to the effect that England, though still to outward appearance powerful, is gradually losing the substance of her strength, and that her present policy is directed towards maintaining her high position by peaceful measures. She is far different now from what she was in Tao

Kwang's reign, and there would be no difficulty in coming to an understanding with Kwang. A Chinaman may be pardoned for thinking that England is less powerful than formerly, while as to her "rapacity" it is a matter of fact she has been dragged into a policy of annexation through her misadventure as a pioneer of commerce. This, however, by the way. The fact remains that the Marquis Tseng, accredited as Chinese Ambassador to England, France, Russia, and Prussia, the man who negotiated the Treaty of Peking of February, 1881, providing for the retrocession of Kuldja, and who knew the remotest of Russian aims and policy, advocates that British aid and support should be sought by the Chinese Government in their dealings with Russia. The Marquis sees clearly that the common danger to India, Persia, and China is the rapacity of the Muscovite neighbour, whose territorial aggressions are an ever present menace to the East. If Tseng can persuade the Peking ruler that instead of mistreating France and Japan they should keep a watchful eye on Russia, and prepare to resist any attempt that may be made to wrest from the control of the Emperor Kwang Si either Manchuria or Mongolia, he will not have laboured in vain. It will be his business to impart a little of his own confidence in English *bona fides* to his suspicious and fatuous brother mandarins.

**DISASTROUS FIRE AT BOWRING-
TON, HONGKONG.**

[illegible]

As to the cause of the outbreak, we understand that the people interested in buildings in the vicinity have complained on previous occasions of the risk caused by the dangerous practice of storing the kerosene close to the godowns, and it is to be hoped that this disaster will be a lesson which will be taken to heart, and that in future this at all times should be done at such a distance from the godowns as to be free from any possibility, that a mishap like that of yesterday morning, cannot possibly affect the main stores. We understand that the property was fully insured. The necessity of securing the tin close to the inside the godown was not known to the Government, had taken note of the complaints above alluded to from owners of neighboring property, and that a Commission had been appointed consisting of Mr. H. E. Woodhouse, the Commissioner, the Hon. Mr. J. H. B. Hall, R. A. (Military Fire Master), Mr. J. B. (Assistant Surveyor-General), Mr. J. H. (Company) and Mr. E. M. Durr (Hongkong Fire Insurance), and Mr. E. M. Durr (Hongkong Fire Insurance), and Mr. E. M. Durr (Hongkong Fire Insurance) of petroleum storing. The Commission sat on two or two occasions before the outbreak. Chinkiang was visited with a heavy fall of snow, which commenced on Saturday night and continued without intermission until 11 a.m. this morning. In consequence the steamer *Chinkiang* did not reach this until noon to-day. It is stated that the fall of snow has been at least as much as 10 inches. The weather is still in the north. *News*, 24 February.

HONGKONG HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION.

The twenty annual show of the Hong Kong Horticultural Society was opened at the Botanical Gardens on Thursday afternoon, the 14th inst. One item of the show which was an addition to the recent years, the classes for poultry, was missing, and in these classes last year not being such as to encourage the Committee to continue it. This year's show, on the whole, was not up to the standard of last year, the number of specimens being again a production of extra specimens of either flowers or vegetables. December and January were too warm, but the effect of the weather during those months was not so much felt as it was in the case of horticultural or vegetable production had it been for the very sharp and sudden change at the beginning of the winter for a very raw and biting weather for this country. Added to this, the weather was so much warmer in the past few days have damaged the blossoms and flowering plants were consequently the less in appearance. Under all these disadvantages the arrangements were made in a very creditable manner, a fair one, but in some classes there was a very considerable falling off. This was particularly noticeable with regard to cacti and mollus. Roses were somewhat better, but the number of specimens was not so large as in former years, made a fair show. Cut flowers, both small and show, and not a particularly good one, and the same might be said of bougainvillea. There was but a very small entry of talipot palm, and a few specimens of the same were not so fat. As on most previous occasions there was not make much of a show, and Mr. D. Nowrojee had by far the best display. The horticultural department appeared to be about well filled with specimens, but there were some fine exhibits. Some of the vegetables were very extremely good, but other classes were somewhat deficient, which was especially the case with some of the fruit. The prizes were given to the exhibitors, and the list of prize winners is would seem that the number of competitors was very small—most of the prizes being divided among Messrs. E. L. Woon, H. I. Dickie, D. Nowrojee, H. J. Helms, J. A. Young, and others.

The arrangements were the same as in former years, the stands for the exhibits being ranged along three sides of the terrace on which the fountain stands, that facing the harbour being the most convenient. The stands were well covered with roofing as usual, and the wheels had a pretty effect. The Bull of the Bulls was expected to perform on the ground shortly after the show was opened to the public, but owing to a misarrangement it did not appear. The Bull of the Bulls show without a Band has a tendency to rather a flat sort of entertainment—in fact, we have never seen the one without the other before. The music was not so good as it used to be. The exhibition was a very good day, and it is to be hoped those attending will be provided with the whimsical charm their sense of hearing as well as that of sight.

During the afternoon there was a fair attendance.

[illegible]

CUT FLOWERS.
Four Camellia Blooms—1, Mr. Newrojee; 2, Mr. Holmes.

Four Rose Blooms—1, Mr. Chung Alank; 2, Mr. Nowrojee.
 One Red Flower—1, Mr. Nowrojee.
 One Red and White Flower, dissimilar (each, but not consist of one variety only)—1, Mr. Nowrojee.
 Mr. Dietke.
 One Red Flower, dissimilar with Feras and Croopers—1, Mr. Yang Pan; 2, Mr. Woodie.
 Hand Begonias—1, Mr. J. H. Cox; 2, Mrs. Holmes.
 One Red Flower, dissimilar—1, Mrs. Cox.
 Three Decorations of Wild Flowers—1, Mrs. Ford.
 Miss Hage.

VEGETABLES.
 Six kinds of Vegetables—1, Mr. Woodin; 2, Mr. Dietke.
 One Head of Celer, large—1, Mr. Holmes.
 Two Heads of Celer, dwarf—1, Mr. D. Sassoon.
 One Head of Celer, large—1, Mr. Dietke.
 Six Beet Roots (avg.)—1, Mr. Dietke; 2, Mr. Nowrojee.
 Six Beet Roots (short or round)—1, Mr. Woodie.
 Mr. Holmes.
 Six Carrots (long)—1, Mr. Nowrojee; 2, Mr. Maclean.
 Six Carrots (short or each)—1, Mr. Nowrojee; 2, Mr. Dietke.
 One Turnip—1, Mr. Woodin; 2, Mr. Dietke.
 Two Cauliflowers—1, Mr. Nowrojee; 2, Mr. Dietke.
 Two Cabbages—1, Mr. Mody; 3, Mr. Nowrojee.
 One Lettuce—1, Mr. Nowrojee; 2, Mr. Holmes.
 Two Lettuce Cos—1, Mr. Dietke; 4, Mr. Nowrojee.
 Two Lettuce Cabbages—1, Mr. Nowrojee; 2, Mr. Dietke.
 One Dish Parsley—1, Mr. Woodin; 2, Mr. Nowrojee.
 One Dish Parsley—1, Mr. Woodin; 3, Mr. Maclean.
 Five Pods of Beans, Broad—1, Mr. Dietke; 2, Mr. Maclean.
 One Dish of Beans, Broad—1, Mr. Dietke; 2, Mr. Maclean.
 Twenty-five Potatoes, white—1, Mr. Dietke; 2, Mr. Nowrojee.
 Twenty-five Potatoes, red—No award.
 Six Turnips—1, Mr. Dietke; 2, Mr. Nowrojee.
 One Turnip—1, Mr. Dietke; 2, Mr. Nowrojee.
 Twelve Onions—1, Mr. Nowrojee; 2, Mr. Holmes.
 Twelve Leeks—No award.
 One Six Leafed Radish—1, Mr. Dietke; 2, Mr. Nowrojee.
 Twenty-five Radishes, turnip-rooted—No award.
 Twenty-five Radishes, long—1, Mr. Dietke; 2, Mr. Nowrojee.
 Six Kohl Rabi—1, Mr. Nowrojee; 3, Mr. Holmes.
 Two Savoy—1, Mr. Mody; 1, Mr. Woodin.
 One Brussels Sprouts—1, Mr. Dietke; 2, Mr. Nowrojee.
 Twelve Tomatoes—1, Mr. Nowrojee; 2, Mr. Holmes.
 One Tomato—1, Mr. Dietke; 2, Mr. Nowrojee.
 Two Cane Tomatoes—No award.
 Six Horse Radish—No award.
 One Rooted Radish—1, Mr. Woodin; 2, Mr. Dietke.
 Arrows—1, Mr. Nowrojee; 2, Mr. Dietke.
 Radish, 6 kinds at least—1, Mr. Dietke; 2, Mr. Nowrojee.
 Four kinds of Vegetables—3, Fong Kang; 3, Chao Hong.
 One Head of Celery—1, Kum Alan; 2, Assam.
 Six Beet Roots, short—1, Kum Hung; 3, Kum Po.
 Kum Alan.
 Six Beet Roots, long—No award.
 Six Carrots—1, Aking; 3, Kum Po.
 Two Cauliflowers—3, Kum Hung.
 One Cauliflower—1, Aking.
 Two Cabbages, dressed—3, Kum Po.
 Two Lettuce cos—1, Aking; 3, Chi Han.
 One Lettuce cos—1, Aking; 3, Wan Afan.
 One dish of Fenchel—1, Kum Po; 3, Wan Afan.
 Fifty pods of Peas—3, Assam.
 One coldish Egg, French—1, Chi Hoi; 3, Kum Hung.
 Twenty-five Potatoes—1, Mr. Woodin; 2, Mr. Dietke.
 Six Turnips—1, Kum Po; 3, Young Ah Tho.
 Twelve Parsnips—1, Kum Po; 3, Young Ah Tho.
 One Turnip—1, Aking; 3, Young Ah Tho.
 Fifty Brussels Sprouts—1, Aking; 2, Wan Afan.
 Aking.

Flowers.
 One Tulip—No award.
 Six Horse Radish—No award.
 Best collection of Sweet and Pot Herbs—No award.

Two Yams—No award.
Six Arrow-roots, West Indian—No award.
Six Arrow-roots, East Indian—No award.
Six Kohl Rabi—No award.

PRUIT.

Best collection of Fruit (grown in Hongkong)
Mr. Norrjojo, 2, Mr. Holmes, 3, Mr. Chung Ah

The Flower Show was continued on Friday afternoon and, notwithstanding the unfavorable weather, was attended by a considerable number of visitors. By the kind permission of Adam Willas, the band of the *Audacious* was present and played a good selection of music.

CONSECRATION OF THE STAR
SOUTHERN CHINA LODGE,

[illegible]

officers and visitors, of whom there was a considerable number, and all were treated with the greatest hospitality during their short

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A MANDARIN'S DRUNKEN ADVENTURE

[illegible]

tures. There a somewhat-considerable
the weeping mandarin pounding away
General, and the General wailing off to
as best he could, until the hatchet was to
for him, and wounded the General's
the General's death, and the General's
assistance of the wounded hero, and, blind
magnitude with no regard whatever for
civil dignity, hauled him off to be bea-
the General's death, and the General's
woke up from his drunken fit. Naturally the
dead man was horror-stricken at finding
had done in his life. He was placed on a
the General's death, and the General's
police of the Empire, with a long and
elaborate statement of the considerations
led the high provincial authorities to vi-
out of the case. According to the
instance, great stress is laid upon the fact
the delinquent was raving drunk when the
was perpetrated, that there was no evi-
of any previous crime on the part of the
murdering his fellow. These considera-
would, under ordinary circumstances, be
to mitigate his punishment to imprisonment
for a term of years. However, the
a civil magistrate of low rank, and the
had murdered a General. It is there-
suggested that he be transported to the
for military service, a terrible sentence
for a man of his rank. But the question
question. It would be well for China if
sentences passed on offenders against the
were as equitably framed and conscienti-
ously carried out as those in this country.
circumstances is taken into account; the
of murder with which the man was charged
addressed to the less serious offense of
the delinquent's punishment; that is, the
insult to the person rather than the crime
rememberable to find a man in a responsible
rendering himself so ridiculous a target
of the public. It is better that a man
should be so ridiculous than that he should
do not wonder that an example is made
of him who has so far transgressed his golden
of propriety and decorum. Drunkenness,
should have their share rather than deserve
as so uncommon in China as some
folk imagine, and the lawless magistrate
seems to have had recourse to the bottle
to escape the duties and annoyances
in China. The delinquent's position
position that if he had joined one of the
Tempanzo S'ioches which form so inter-
and little-known a feature in Chinese soci-
ety, he would have been able to escape
from suspicion by the Government.

HONGKONG.

The past fortnight has been fairly even

[illegible]

7. Consul-General in Japan, but the date of departure has not yet been fixed nor has the name of his successor been officially notified.

[illegible]

The British steamer *Suez*, Capt. Dodd, left Hongkong December 4th, and stayed at Singapore three days and nights, and then proceeded on to all the usual ports in the Straits, through to Adelaide, and then returned at the usual ports, arriving at Hongkong 15th, at noon, having made the round trip the remarkably quick time of 73 days, the quickest round trip that has ever been made.

The following are her dates of leaving: her return trip:—Newcastle Jan. 20th, 22nd, Brisbane 25th, Townsville 28th, 29th, Thursday Island Feb. 1st, and Port

to the 5th, 3 p.m.
g and A telegram has been received by the
which Consul stating that Lieut.-General C

[illegible]

back, and it was hoped he would re-
was 54 years of age, and had spent a
portion of his life in Hongkong, where

widely known and respected as a leader and spokesman of the Portuguese community, a social and political, and a self-made man. He had been closely connected in the trade between Hong Kong and the Australian Colonies since 1840, and was a smaller scale trader in Hong Kong and other Australian ports. He made a visit to Europe, in the course of which he selected London as the best place for the education of his two sons, whom he accompanied to his return to China. In 1881 he was invited to Europe for the purpose of making a personal inspection of the progress of the railway and for his own pleasure. As president of the Lusitano Club, for the welfare of which he did much, he was much esteemed, and on a fortnight or three weeks ago he was elected

On the evening of the 5th inst. the

[illegible]

competing was reduced to four. A
was effected, and Sassoon setting a st
stroke, at once dashed to the front.

[illegible]

W. M.	Buffs; Surgeon, Harris, A.M.D.; I
3, called	W. A. H. Gray, R.N.; Lieut. Theo. F

R.N., Lieut. Hugh S. Barton, R.N.J.,
Murphy, Beakawin. The lady
were—Mrs. Mulloy, Mrs. How
Brackenbury, and Mrs. Fleam
Trotter was a passenger to Singapore
comprised 85 rank and file of
11 men of the Royal Artillery
the Royal Engineers; 12 men of
Hospital Corps; 1 Sergeant of the
Store Corps; and about 60 seamen.
Besides these the *Hankow* took six

and thirty-one children.

CHINA.
CANTON.
[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]
8th
There are little mows of interest at present. All is quiet now, the people are recommenced active business after Year holidays.
The only item of real interest is Thos. Marshall Brown has got permission for establishing the mines department during the recent year. He is architect, I have, to survey the ruins reported for official use. This shows minds of the officials are well advanced and order of the affairs. Everything appears to wait until the anniversary. The fall of that place will put the war party in the capital to give to some terms of peace, for hard as the war, the terms will be harder as the moment of the difficulty is deferred.

SWATOW.

On Sunday, the 3rd instant, at about 7th
the wind changed from N.E. to W.

main fell fast and heavy. The wind
strong that sent large and small
(about 300) on to the beach. Several
broken into pines. The loss of life was
Two foreign vessels dragged their
little. Three Europeans whilst on
Double Island had a very narrow escape.
Gazette Correspondent.

New Year with some 8,000 Honan b
is currently reported that upwards of
are still to come. New forts, ba

The Chinese Authorities at Foonchow consider that at the present critical situation it is advisable to be kept well posted with regard to the movements of the Chinese at Kimpai Anchorage. To this end, the Chinese will be kept advised by means of a permanent detachment from the French coast-guard to visit the Anchorage by steamer, and upon return to Foonchow will report to the official representative of the aspect at Mamoi.

We are informed by the Superintendant Straits Extension, Australasia, Telegraph Company, that the Communication Cable between Foonchow and Kimpai, which was laid down in 1901, was interrupted, owing to the action of the sea at Kimpai, which has forbidden the sampan, although flying the British flag, to ply between Kimpai and Foonchow. The Chinese, in the event of the outage, and we can only surmise that an immediate and decisive counter-measure will be taken in the matter.

The last Market report of the Straits Settlements and F.M.S. for the month of December, 1901, from the Office of the Foonchow Chamber of Commerce, is even more very interesting, although as a comparison the statistics of the trade of Kimpai are not given. The total value of the general export of goods during the past twelve months, ending on the 31st of December, 1901, was valued at 4,930,029.15. This, however, is not a falling off, as noticeable at this time of the season, when there was a general depression of trade.

The native fisheries of Kimpai are full of petty pirates (Sooa Cheek) follow up their business both on the side of the M.F.S. by capturing the fish boats and the boats of the M.F.S. and also on the side of the M.F.S. by capturing the fish boats and the boats of the M.F.S. The accounts, however, of the fisheries are, it is said, rather exaggerated, and it is not clear whether the boats are really so numerous as is claimed.

The "Pereros of the Western Nation" (as similar to the Alphabetical gibberish) are anchored on either side of the river just Kimpai Pass. It is, nevertheless, a very dangerous place, and it is not clear whether these desperadoes, and completely unscrupulous, are really so numerous as is claimed.

Considering the enormous amount of currency annually issued in Foonchow

start
r. fast
le the

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MAIL EXPECTED.

pore on the 11th, and is due here on the 21st.
 The O. S. K. on a steamer *Loetia* left Sim-
 pore on the 12th, and is due here on or about
 the 20th inst.

POST OFFICE NOTICES.

The Postal Guide for 1894, revised to date,
 will be found in the Daily Press Directory,
 p. 335 (area edition), p. 331 (sum day). This is
 the only authorized complete Sum day of Postal
 information published in Hongkong.

Note. The authorised List of Mails issued in
 connection with this paper is the one published
 twice each day in the *Press*, which is always
 enclosed to a much later hour than that given
 below.

A MAIL WITH FLORIDA

Bangkok.—Per P. O. Chom

inst. at 11:30 A.M.
 For Bangkok.—Per *F. C. Chien Kiao*, to-morrow, the 20th inst., at 11:30 A.M.
 For Amoy, Tamsui and Taiwan.—Per *Hailong*, to-morrow, the 20th inst., at 11:30 A.M.
 For Hongkong.—Per *Chien Kiao*, to-morrow, the 20th inst., at Noon.
 For Saigon.—Per *Mascadia*, on Thursday, the 21st inst., at 1:30 A.M.
 For Saigon.—Per *C. T. Hooh*, on Thursday, the 21st inst., at 1:30 A.M.
 For Hongkong, Hincio and Yokohama.—Per *Kichu*, on Friday, the 22d inst., at 11:30 A.M.
 For Amoy and Manila.—Per *Diamant*, on Friday, the 22d inst., at Noon.
 For Hongkong, Hincio and Kiatat.—Per *Amstista*, on Friday, the 22d inst., at Noon.

MAILS BY THE UNITED STATES
 PACIFIC
 The United States Mail Steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, will be dispatched on THURSDAY, the 21st instant, with Mails for Japan, Honolulu, San Francisco, the United States, Panama, Colon, Rio, which will be placed as follows:—
 11:45 A.M. Register opens.

on board. _____

MAILS BY THE FRENCH PACKET.
The French Contract Packet *Saghalien*, will be despatched on **TUESDAY**, the 26th inst., for *Malay*, for the *United Kingdom*, *Europe*, and places beyond, via *Nankai*; to *Soleon*, *Spanish Settlements*, *Patricia*, *Barroet*, *Manila*, *the Andamanas*, *Colon*, *Panama*, *Medan*, *Amboyna*, *Aden*, *Mauritius*, *Seyn*, *Malta*, and *Gibraltar*.
The usual notice will be observed in closing the Mails, &c.

NOTICE FOR CLOSING THE CONTRACT PACKET.
THE FRENCH MAIL.
Day before *Departure*.
5 P.M., *Home Office* Office hours. Post Office closes, except the *Home Office* box which is always open out of office hours.
Day of *Departure*.
7 A.M., Post Office closes.
10 A.M., *Departure* of the *Contract Packet*. Posting of all private letters and packets ceases.
11 A.M., Mail closes, except for *Late Letters*.
12 A.M., *Contract Packet* may be posted with *Late* % of 10 until midnight.

A.M., Late Letters may be postmarked with Late Fee of 10¢

11.49 AM. Late Letters may be posted or bound
the packet with Lasts Pan of 10 Cents-until
time of departure.

THE ENGLISH MAIL.

The following hours are observed in closest
Mails, Sec. by the British Contract Company.

Day of Departure.

Noon.—Money Order Office closes.

2.00 P.M.—Packet Office closes. Postage. Post-
ing of all printed matter and pattern cases.

3.00 P.M.—Mails closed, except for Late Letters.

8.10 P.M.—Letters may be posted with last fee
of 10 cents.

8.30 P.M.—when the Post Office closes entirely.

8.40 P.M.—Late Letters may be posted on board
the packet with late fee of 10 cents, until
time of departure.

MONDAY'S LETTERS.

Public attention is called to the following
extract from the Hongkong Postal Guide
Paragraph 60—

"It is the duty of all holders of responsibility
for unsolicited letters containing Bank Notes
and, where Registration has been neglected
WILL MAKE NO RECEIPTS on alleged losses."

ERS FOR THE UNITED STATES

LETTERS FOR THE UNITED STATES BY MAILING SHIP.

When it is desired to forward letters to the United States by a sailing ship, only is not satisfied as carrying a mail, it is only necessary to post the letters in the ordinary way, marked with the name of the ship, and prepared for delivery to the Post Office on board. The Post Office undertakes the duty of obtaining notice of its departure and despatching the correspondence. It is not safe to leave letters on board a ship until at least one day before the date fixed for sailing.

RATES OF POSTAGE.

Letters, per lb. oz.	10 Cents
Post Cards, each	3 Cents
Books, Papers, and "Commercial" Matter, per lb. oz.	2 Cents
Newspapers and Papers	2 Cents
Registration	15 Cents
Do. with return receipt, each	15 Cents
Commercial Correspondence	per lb. oz. 10 Cents

Letters should be placed in a strong paper envelope, and should not bear the character of an actual or personal correspondence, such as invoices, books, orders, etc. The charge for postage is for the weight of the letters, and under 4 oz. weigh you charge 10 Cents.

Stamps tendered for sale must be paid for in advance.

The Stamps tendered for sale must not exceed \$50 in value must be perfectly clear, in good condition, and in original unbroken paper. Stamps will be purchased. They must be presented personally or accompanied by a note.

To provide means of remitting small sums of money to or from this Colony and between the Ports of China, the Postmasters and Agents of the Colonies and Foreign Countries are required to purchase Hongkong Postage Stamps from foreign residents.

Letters containing stamps should be registered, and the Stamps should be secured from observation.

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' LETTERS.
1.—Privates in F.F.M. Army or NAVY. Non-commissioned Officers, Bandmasters Army or Navy, and Band Leaders, and Sergeants (Class) Writers or Schoolmistresses may send half-dozen letters to the United Kingdom by mail at the rate of five cents (two pence) each, and may be replied either in Imperial or in Hongkong Stamps. By private steamer the

General rate of Postage on S. letters sent elsewhere.

2.—The general rate of Postage on Soldiers' and Sailors' letters sent elsewhere.

3.—The same privileges apply to letters addressed to the Privates and Non-commissioned Officers as to those above.

4.—Private soldiers leave Hongkong for London about every ten days.

5.—The letters must not exceed half an ounce. No money or valuables, &c., can be sent, even with the extra cost.

6.—If from a Soldier or Sailor his class and description must be stated in full on the letter.

7.—If from a Private, he is signed by the Commanding Officer, with name of regiment, ship, &c. in full. If from a Soldier or Sailor, his class and description, with name of regiment, ship, &c., must be stated in full.

8.—Soldiers and Sailors have no privilege with regard to books or papers, nor can these be forwarded by post.

9.—Not sent to Officers, viz.—Conductors, Purser, Quartermaster, or Chaplain.

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